



The Western Trust's new South West Acute Hospital will offer the most modern clinical practices, using the latest technologies and deliver care to patients in attractive and well-designed buildings. This new £270 million acute hospital will be located at Wolf Lough, off the main A32 Irvinestown Road, north of Enniskillen. The acute new hospital will deliver a wide range of services including acute medicine, accident and emergency, day and elective surgery, children's and older people care services, critical care, imaging, diagnostics and consultant-led maternity services.

### **Addressing Patient Needs**

**100% Single Rooms:** The New Acute Hospital is the first in Northern Ireland to be planned with 100% single ensuite rooms. The single room has been designed with safety in mind and all rooms will be identical to reduce the risk of clinical error while the distance from the bed to bathroom will be minimal to reduce the risk of falls. All come equipped with full height windows to showcase the healing views over a natural environment. The single rooms will be spacious and designed to offer good staff observation while preserving patient privacy.



Image of an in-patient single room.

**Addressing Infection Control:** Every room in the hospital has been designed to address infection control issues. The design has ensured that the hospital will be easy to clean with widespread use of hands free' sensor taps in all clinical areas and materials carefully selected and dust catching edges and ledges removed and surfaces treated with antibacterial coating. Separate routes are also planned for clean goods and service traffic and "dirty", waste products, to reduce the risk of contamination.

**Provide Welcoming Environment, Comfortable & Secure:** Care has been taken to ensure that the new hospital will project a caring and reassuring image for visitors. Visitors will be guided to the main entrance via covered walkways to protect from the wind and rain, while the main entrance boulevard will offer dedicated patient and bus drop-off zones and protected parking close to the front door. The building will be easy to understand with departments logically located, providing the most efficient route for the patient. Artistic features will be integrated to offer stimulation, help alleviate stress and create interest.

**Setting New Standards:** The New Acute Hospital will incorporate much best practise in hospital design and set new standards for patient care. For example, the new Maternity Department will offer modern and homely facilities private, ensuite facilities with many including birthing pools. Designed around the needs of mothers and their families the hospital will offer LRDP rooms - Labour Recovery Delivery and Post-Natal - where patients can remain for the duration of their stay.

### **Project Fact File**

**Project:** New Acute Hospital for the South West

**Location:** Wolf Lough, North of Enniskillen

**Site Size:** 52 acres - 34 acre development zone

**Capital Cost:** £270 Million approximately

**Building Size:** 65,000 m2 and circa 300 beds

**Procuring Authority:** Western Health & Social Care Trust in partnership with DHSSPS

**Procurement Method:** Competitive Dialogue

**Contractor:** Northern Ireland Health Group (FCC Construction SA, Allied Irish Bank, Interserve Investments & P Elliott & Co.).

**Contractor's Architects:** Anshen + Allen

**Construction Start Date:** May 2009

**Completion Date:** Summer 2012

**Supporting Staff Needs:** The New Acute Hospital has been designed to fully support our doctors, nurses, health professionals, facilities management, administrative and support staff to effectively deliver the services for our patients. The building has been planned to reduce travel distances for staff and to maximise staff communication and networking. As a teaching hospital, state of the art education suite will be provided with conferencing, meeting, library and research facilities.



Staff will also have access to the latest medical equipment and technologies. New systems for effective staff and patient communication will be provided with the vital connections to the wider healthcare networks. The hospital will also include enhanced inbuilt and unobtrusive security measures.

**Left: Image of Education Suite**

Within each Department, dedicated staff rest and storage facilities will be provided, while modern Changing Facilities will include showers and a uniform laundry service.

The needs of staff will also be catered for with an on-site crèche and staff 'key worker' accommodation.

### **Design Ethos: Patient Centred Design**

The New Acute Hospital has been designed to meet the highest clinical standards and address infection control and has evolved from an ethos that sets the patient at the heart of all development plans. The aim has been to improve the patient experience by providing a truly therapeutic healing environment that protects patient privacy and dignity, offers healing views of the rolling landscape and maximises the use of natural light and ventilation.

The 65,000m<sup>2</sup> building is broken up into a number of smaller blocks that will allow patients to experience the hospital on a human scale. The building has been planned with the entire suite of outpatients on the ground floor for the convenience of patients. The A & E Department will also be located on the ground floor and can be directly accessed a short distance from the entrance roundabout from which it will be clearly visible. This Department has been planned close to other key areas of the hospital with imaging next door and both theatres and critical care directly above with dedicated lift access. The bank of theatres will be grouped for efficiency and flexibility. The Surgical wards will include protected elective and gynaecology beds.

In-patient wards will be provided in a block to the West of the site overlooking Wolf Lough. The project pioneers the inclusion of 100% single ensuite rooms, providing patients with their own personal space and includes key design features to address the control of infection.

Other key features will include a dedicated Children's Centre. This has been designed around the needs of children and their families and will provide a hospital within a hospital with a dedicated entrance and tailored ward design. This includes an indoor and outdoor play area that can be utilised for therapeutic activities.

A copper clad entrance pavilion will provide a focal point for visitors while a boulevard will lead visitors directly to the main entrance forum. Attention to the needs of disabled users has provided protected carparking and a covered walkway with level access to the main entrance. The entrance forum will be a open and welcoming space with reception, café, shops and seated areas and will offer views of Wolf Lough. From the forum, visitors will be led to the main hospital corridor.

The main corridor will offer a spacious and airy thoroughfare from which all departments can be accessed. This runs parallel with a linear garden that will extend the length of the corridor, linked with a transparent glazed wall that will flood the area with natural light. The richly planted garden together with the wider landscape and attention to wayfinding will ensure the building is easy to navigate.



**Wider Benefits:** The new hospital has been designed to provide an environmentally sensitive and sustainable solution and strict energy targets have been imposed by the Trust.

In relation to wider sustainability issues, this investment provides a welcome boost for the local economy. A social and economic regeneration plan has been developed to maximise the benefits of this investment, providing opportunities for new employment, training and partnerships with the local community. The plan outlines how the Trust and Contractor will work with key local stakeholders to take account of local issues and provide opportunities that will meet local needs and benefit the region.